I. <u>AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION</u>

Please amend paragraph [0030] of the specification as follows:

FIG. [[1]] <u>1A</u> is a cross sectional representation of a nanoparticle 10 having a core 20 and a shell layer 30.

Please insert the following paragraph between paragraphs [0046] and [0047] on page 7 of the specification, and between paragraphs [0088] and [0089] on page 15 of the specification:

Fig. 18 shows a comparison of TGA evaluations at 100°C for nanoparticle and bulk samples.

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